

selecting a message from a first file of messages for display to said user;

and

associating in a second file said annotation to a corresponding message

in said first file.

6. (Amended) The method of claim 4 [or claim 5], further comprising the steps of:

upon presenting a message from said first file, determining the presence of a corresponding annotation in said second file;

responsive to the presence of said corresponding annotation,

displaying with said message indicia representing the existence of said annotation;

selectively receiving from said user a request to display said annotation; and

responsive to receiving the request from said user, displaying said annotation with said message.

9. (Amended) The method of claim [any one of claims] 1 [to 8], further comprising the step of presenting said annotation to other users receiving said message.

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10. (Amended) The method of claim [any one of claims] 4 [to 6], further comprising the step of enabling access by other users to said second file.

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A4
16. (Amended) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a machine to perform the method steps for managing messages of [any one of claims] claim 1 [to 11].

17. (Amended) A computer program product or computer program element for managing a message display according to [the steps of any one of Claims] claim 1 [to 11].

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20. (Amended) The article of manufacture of claim 18 [or claim 19], said computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect accepting further comprising:

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect selectively presenting to said user an edit panel; and

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect receiving from said user said annotation input to said edit panel.

21. (Amended) The article of manufacture of claim [any one of claims] 18 [to 20], further comprising: